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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/750,703	01/02/2004	Arjun Chandrasekar Iyer	SBL0011C1US	3820

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EXAMINER

HARPER, LEON JONATHAN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2166

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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02/21/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

AK

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/750,703	CHANDRASEKAR IYER ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Leon J. Harper	2166	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 December 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 116-163 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 116-163 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 10/31/2007 has been entered. Claims 116, 118-119, 122-123, 127-128, 130-131, 134, 136-137, 139-140, 143, 145-146, 148-149, 152, 154-155, 157-158, 161 and 163 have been amended. Accordingly, claims 116-163 are pending in this office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claims 128-136, 155-163 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. All of the listed claims are either system claims with "means for" limitations or system claims with "module" limitations. Neither set of "system" claims contain any hardware limitations and therefore amount to software per se. Appropriate correction is required.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 116-163 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 116-163 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US 5,864,842 (hereinafter Pederson).

As for claim 116 Pederson discloses: generating a set of SQL statements to query a first table and a second table (See column 4 lines 25-30), wherein the generating uses a relationship between the first table and the second table to construct the set of SQL statements, and the set of SQL statements comprises SQL statements other than a statement that joins the first and second tables querying the first table using the set of SQL statements to produce a result set (See column 4 lines 35-47); querying the second table using the set of SQL statements to produce a second result set; and joining the result set and the second result set to produce a third result set (See column 4 lines 50-57).

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As for claim 117 the rejection of claim 116 is incorporated and further Pederson discloses: a parent/child relationship between the first and second tables, wherein one of the first and second tables is a parent table, and if the first table is the parent table, the second table is a child table, and if the second table is the parent table, the first table is the child table (See figure 4).

As for claim 118 the rejection of claim 117 is incorporated and further Pederson discloses: querying the parent table using the set of SQL statements to produce the result set; and using the result set in constructing a second set of SQL statements to query the child table, wherein the second set of SQL statements comprises SQL statements other than a second statement that joins the second table to another table (See column 7 lines 15-25).

As for claim 119 the rejection of claim 118 is incorporated and further Pederson discloses: querying the child table using the second set of SQL statements to produce the second result set (See column 6 lines 40-50).

As for claim 120 the rejection of claim 119 is incorporated and further Pederson discloses returning the third result set as a result of the query of the first and second tables (See column 6 lines 40-50):.

As for claim 121 the rejection of claim 118 is incorporated and further Pederson discloses: the second set of SQL statements comprises: a query statement for selecting a record having a value of a foreign key field of the second table equal to a value of a target key field in the result set (See column 6 lines 30-45).

As for claim 122 the rejection of claim 116 is incorporated and further Pederson discloses: using the result set in constructing a second set of SQL statements to query the second table, wherein the second set of SQL statements comprises SQL statements other than a second statement that joins the second table to another table (See column 6 lines 35-50)

As for claim 123 the rejection of claim 122 is incorporated and further Pederson discloses: querying the second table using the second set of SQL statements to produce the second result set (See column 6 lines 40-50),

As for claim 124 the rejection of claim 123 is incorporated and further Pederson discloses: returning the third result set as a result of the query of the first and second tables 9See column 6 lines 35-55).

As for claim 125 the rejection of claim 122 is incorporated and further Pederson discloses: a query statement for selecting a record having a value of a foreign key field

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of the second table equal to a value of a target key field in the result set (See column 7 lines 5-15).

As for claim 126 the rejection of claim 116 is incorporated and further Pederson discloses: obtaining a search specification for the query of the first and second tables, wherein the set of SQL statements comprises a query statement to select a record from at least one of the first and second tables if the record satisfies the search specification (See column 6 lines 40-45).

As for claim 127 the rejection of claim 126 is incorporated and further Pederson discloses: executing the set of SQL statements to produce the third result set; and returning the third result set in response to the search specification (See column 6 lines 35-55).

Claims 128 -163 are all either system or computer program product claims all comprising substantially the same limitations as claims 116-127 and are thus rejected for the same reasons as set forth in the rejection of claims 116-127.

Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Leon J. Harper whose telephone number is 571-272-0759. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30AM - 4:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hosain T. Alam can be reached on 571-272-3978. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

LJH
Leon J. Harper
February 17, 2008


HOSAIN ALAM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER